

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Stage Change for 159TH Street Project

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that a stage change will take place in the reconstruction and widening project along 159th Street (U.S. 6/Illinois 7) from Will-Cook Road to Ravinia Avenue, beginning, weather permitting, Tuesday, May 31.

Beginning on Thursday, June 2, 104th Avenue will be closed at 159th Street until Winter 2016. A posted detour will direct traffic to use 108th Avenue, 167th Street and Lagrange Road (U.S. 45).

In the new configuration, traffic will shift north to temporary pavement with lane width reductions. Temporary traffic signals will be used for the duration of the project.

As part of the project, Metra railroad gates will be relocated on Wednesday, June 1 to Thursday, June 2. Train engineers are required to blow their horn during quiet zone until the new gates are established.

The overall improvements will include new concrete pavement with two lanes in both directions and a multi-use path along 159th Street. New traffic signals will be installed at 113th Court and 104th Avenue. The project includes traffic signal modernization at 159th Street and Wolf Road and 159th Street and 108th Avenue with the addition of dual left turn lanes to and from 159th Street.

The project is expected to be completed in Summer 2017.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Click <u>here</u> to find details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at <u>www.travelmidwest.com</u>